

Arlington Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project

Department of Planning and Community Development

March 2, 2022





Agenda

Introductions and Instructions

5 min

Project Update

10 min

Introduction to Access Points, Trailheads, & Waysides

15 min

Questions

10 min

Polling

25 min

Wrap-up

5 min

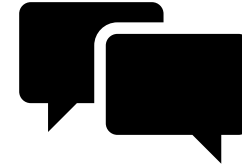
Zoom Meeting Guidelines



Everyone is muted by default. You will have the opportunity to virtually raise your hand and unmute during the Q&A and may be unmuted during breakout sessions.



If you're comfortable, activate your camera to better connect with other attendees. Feel free to use a digital background if you want.



If you have a question during a presentation, enter it in the chat. All chats will go to the host and will be addressed at during the Q&A portion of the presentation.



This meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Town's website.

Zoom 101

- Mute and unmute buttons are in the lower left corner of the Zoom screen
- Raise hand feature: Click on Reactions at the bottom of your screen and choose "Raise Hand". Don't forget to "Lower Hand" once you've been called on.
- If you are calling in by phone, *9 controls mute/unmute and *6 is to raise your hand.

Project Update - Timeline



Project Update - Existing Conditions Analysis



- The Existing Conditions Analysis is now available online:
[Chapter 1: Existing Conditions](#)
- This chapter covers the following:
 - Document review
 - Path volumes
 - Crash history
 - Existing entry and access points, waysides, and trailheads
 - Existing signage and lighting
 - Existing artwork
 - Intersections
 - Existing maintenance practices
 - Bridges
 - Drainage
 - Path width and constraints for widening

Survey Results



Survey Results



- **1,687 respondents**
 - Majority between the ages of 35-54
 - 55% Female, 42% Male, 1% Non-Binary/Non-Conforming
 - 90% White/Caucasian



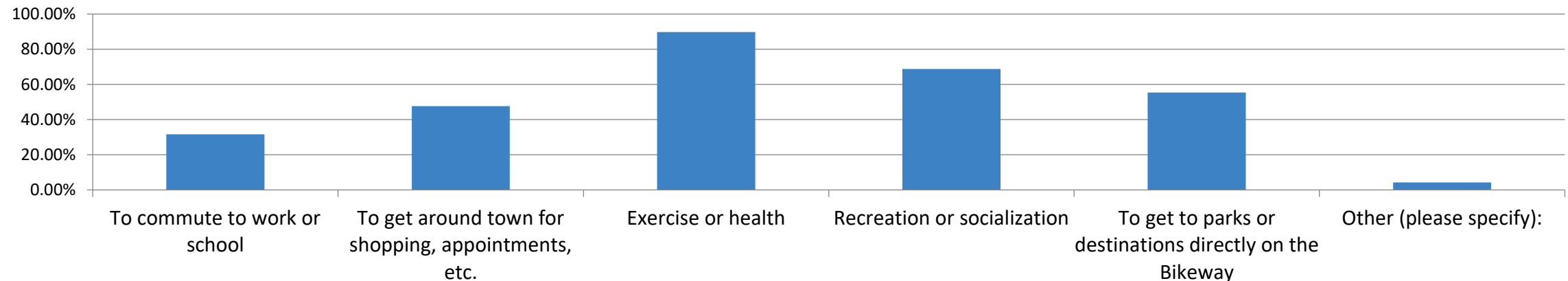
Survey Results - Major Takeaways



The Bikeway is used often, for many reasons, and by many modes

- **61% visit the Bikeway every day or a few times a week**
- **Many users travel with children, pets, or pushing strollers**

How do you currently use the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington?
(Check all that apply)



Survey Results - Major Takeaways



Bikeway users value safety, comfort, and having space to travel away from vehicles among natural beauty

- **Nearly 70% ranked "separation from vehicles" and "safety and comfort for all users" as *very important***
- **More than half of respondents believed the following to be *important or very important***
 - **Access to nature (61%)**
 - **Responsible and safe use of electric bikes and scooters (60%)**
 - **Access to neighboring cities/towns (57%)**

[illegible]

Survey Results - Major Takeaways

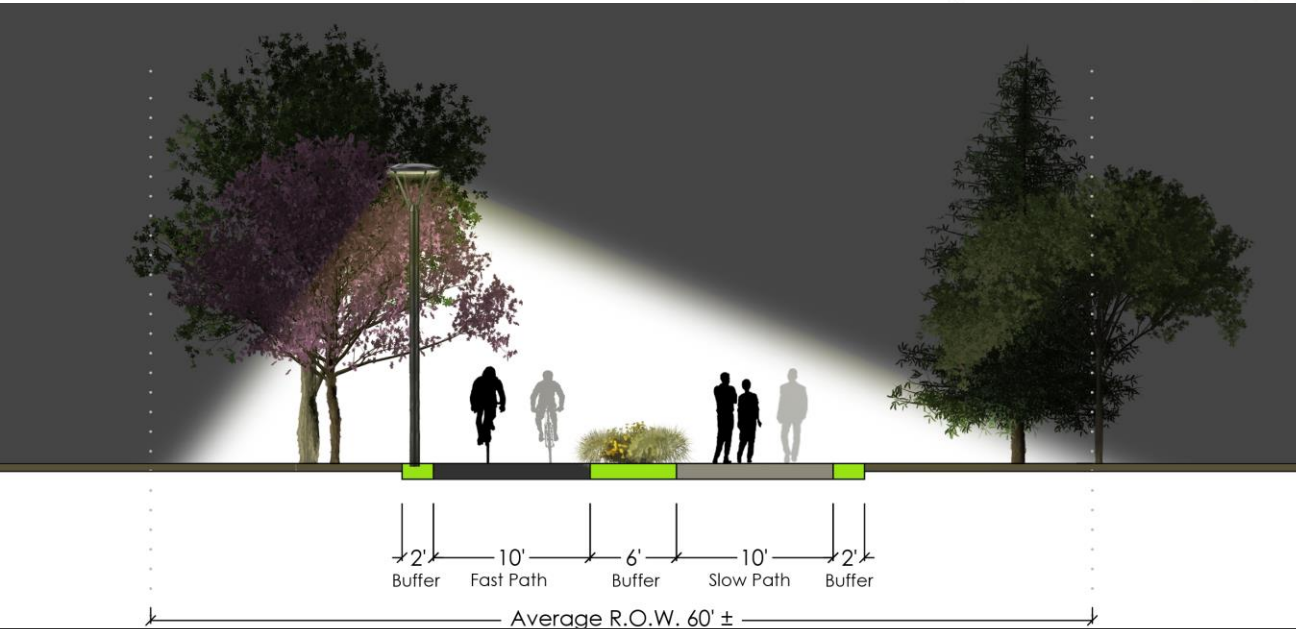


There is room for improvement

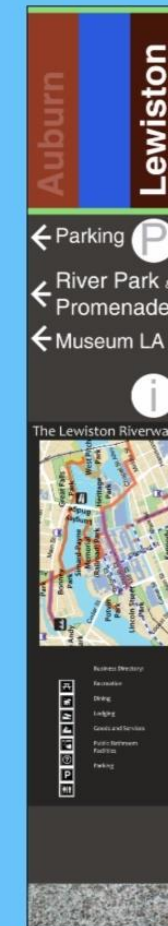
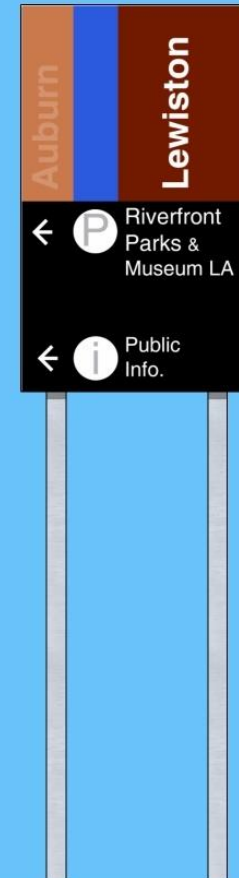
- 68% ranked "lighting" *poor* or *very poor*
- Nearly half of respondents believed the following to be *poor* or *very poor*
 - Signage, maps, and wayfinding to the path and nearby destinations (47%)
 - Path user etiquette (passing and yielding behaviors, speeding, etc.) (46%)
 - Space for all modes and users to operate comfortably (45%)



Survey Results - Lighting



Survey Results - Wayfinding



Survey Results - Etiquette and Space



Vision and Goals



Vision



The Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington will be a safe, pleasant, and low-stress corridor for active transportation and recreation that is accessible and comfortable for all ages and abilities.

Supporting Goals



SAFETY

The Bikeway will increase safety by reducing potential for and severity of conflicts between path users and vehicles at intersections, and among path users along the Bikeway and at access points.

COMFORT

The Bikeway will be a low-stress facility that is comfortable for all ages and abilities, open to a suite of modes of active transportation, and available at all times of day and year.

CONNECTIVITY

The Bikeway will be a safe, efficient, and direct off-road connection between neighborhoods, other recreational facilities, rapid transit, and neighboring cities and towns. The Bikeway will facilitate additional local and regional connections as part of a larger walking and biking network.

COMMUNITY & NATURE

The Bikeway will provide an aesthetically pleasing user experience by providing access to nature, enhancing the open space in which it resides, and fostering a sense of place and community.

Introduction to Access Points, Trailheads & Waysides



Definition: Entry /Access Point:



- Where path users transition from a street, sidewalk, or another path into the Bikeway

May be minor and unimproved

May be multimodal

Definition: Trailhead



- A Key multimodal access point offering parking - to - path connections



- Orient people as they enter the path
- Information maps, rules, policies, and etiquette expectations



- Can set a tone and character for the path and the experience

Definition: Wayside:



Places where people can stop to rest, regroup, immerse, or recreate



...in areas along the side of the path to get out of traffic

Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



ACCESS & ORIENT

- Attractive, accessible, welcoming design
- Informational kiosks
- Regulatory/etiquette signs
- Vehicle parking
- Bicycle parking and repair stations
- “Blue Bike” rental station

REST & REGROUP

- Pull off the path to pause with:
- A scenic view or vista of nature/townscape
- A place to sit
- A nice natural landscape and plantings
- Trash receptacles

IMMERSE

- Leave the outside world behind to:
- Feel like you’re in a natural area
- Enjoy public art
- Learn about Arlington’s community, history or environment through informational exhibits

RECREATE

- Access to multi-use sports fields
- Exercise equipment
- Playgrounds
- Side paths to conservation land/neighborhoods

Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



ACCESS & ORIENT

- Attractive -
- Accessible -
- Welcoming design
- Informational kiosks
- Regulatory/etiquette signs
- Vehicle parking
- Bicycle parking and repair stations
- Rental bike stations



Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



ACCESS & ORIENT

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Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



REST & REGROUP

- Pull off the path to pause with:
- A scenic view or vista of nature/townscape
- A place to sit
- A nice natural landscape and plantings



Pathways and resting areas

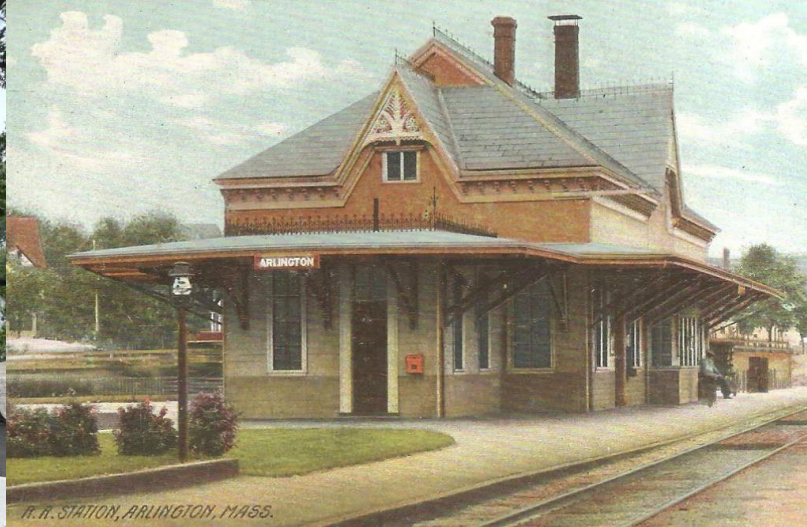


Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



REST & REGROUP

- Pull off the path to pause with:
- A scenic vista of nature/townscape
- A historical anecdote
- A place to sit
- A nice natural landscape



Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



IMMERSE

- Leave the outside world behind to:
- Feel like you're in a Natural Area
- Enjoy Public art
- Learn about Arlington's Culture, History or environment through informational exhibits



Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



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Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



RECREATE

- Access to multi-use sports fields
- Exercise equipment
- Playgrounds



Let us imagine: Access, Trailheads and waysides improved:



RECREATE

- Side paths to conservation land/neighborhoods



Side paths to
conservation land



Let us imagine: the next era for this path



Questions?

Before we proceed with polling



Polling



When we activate the poll, a window will appear within Zoom.

Choose your response and click "Submit"

Results will be shared following each round of polls

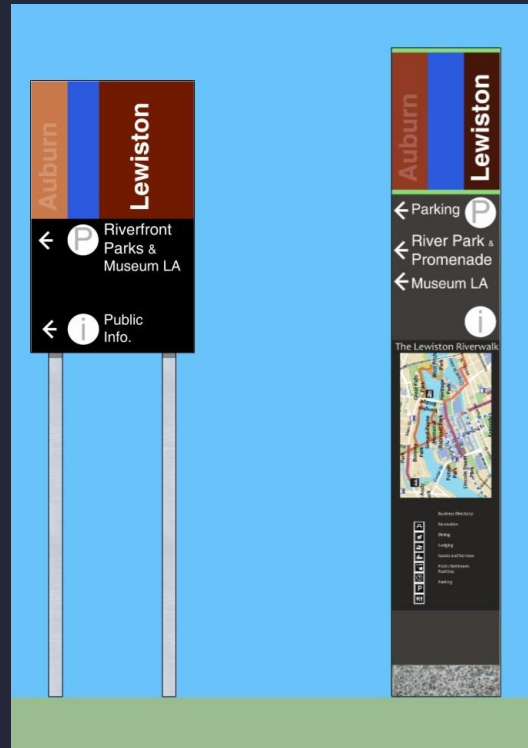
Which amenities that help you *Access and get Oriented* along the Bikeway are important to you?

(Check all that apply)

Vehicular parking
w/directional signs



Informational kiosks/maps
and/or regulatory signs with
rules, and policies



Services, such as bike
rental or repair
stations



Bicycle Parking



Which amenities that help you *Rest and Regroup* on a ride or walk are important to you? (Check all that apply)

Pull offs to pause
out of the way of
path traffic



Views and
vistas



Landscaping
and plantings



Seating



Which amenities that help you to *Immerse* yourself on a visit to the Bikeway are important to you? (Check all that apply)

Public art



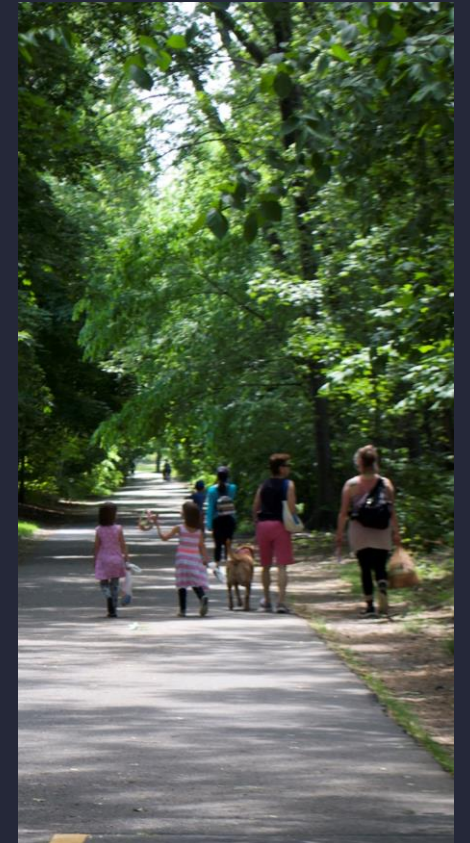
Cultural, historical, or educational exhibits



Natural Areas



Space for Social Interaction



Which amenities that help you *Recreate* (for physical activity) on the Bikeway are important to you? (Check all that apply)

Multi-use fields



Exercise equipment



Playgrounds



Side paths



Which of these categories are most important to you?

(Check all that apply)

Access and orient

Rest and regroup

Immerse

Recreate



What do you wish to *experience* when you visit the Bikeway?

(Check all that apply)

Natural
landscapes that
are interesting
and relaxing



Playful signage,
art installations,
and spaces for
kids and adults



Clean, efficient,
and safe
thoroughfare



Cultural or historic
stories of
Arlington and its
people



What kind of *creature comforts* would you like to see more of along the Bikeway?

(Check all that apply)

- Water fountains
- Restrooms
- Seating and gathering places
- Directions to nearby shops and food
- Shade
- Enjoyable landscape views

Are there any amenities or experiences we have not mentioned that you would like to see along the Bikeway?

Project Approach



**Complete existing
conditions analysis**



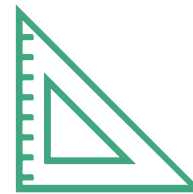
**Develop vision and goals to
guide recommendations**



**Develop policy
recommendations**



**Develop broadly applicable,
corridor-wide
recommendations**



**Develop site-specific
recommendations at
select locations**

Immediate Next Steps



- **Finalize maintenance, policy, and corridor-wide recommendations**
- **Recommend improvements for road crossings, access points, waysides, and trailheads**
- **Develop implementation plan**

Wrap-up



Questions? Contact Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner, at Damstutz@town.Arlington.ma.us

Thank you!



Thank you for sharing your experiences and vision for the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington.

Here are other ways to stay involved:

- 1.** Read the Existing Conditions Analysis at [Chapter 1: Existing Conditions](#)
- 2.** Visit the project website at arlingtonma.gov/abac
- 3.** If you have questions about the project, please contact Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner, Department of Planning and Community Development at Damstutz@town.Arlington.ma.us